

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for operating a tattoo studio comprising the steps of:
identifying a customer selection of a tattoo design from a product display unit;
identifying a bin designator from a schedule associated with said product display unit;
using said bin designator to locate a storage bin containing a stencil for said tattoo design;
scanning at said storage bin a bar code assigned to said stencil;
scanning at least a second barcode associated with a tattoo enhancement;
registering a sale based on a price determined by said scanning steps.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of combining said bin designator schedule with said product display unit by displaying said bin designator adjacent to a tattoo design on said display unit.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting said stencil from among a plurality of different types of stencils contained in said bin.
4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting said tattoo enhancement from the group consisting of a non-standard paint, an additional paint color, and a mixture of paint colors.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
providing said customer with a receipt that includes at least a total cost of said tattoo and tattoo care instructions.
6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of displaying signage

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sufficient to inform customers that tattoo care instructions are provided on said receipt, whereby consumers are prompted to request said receipt if one is not offered by an attendant.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of storing said stencils in pre-packaged sets, and selecting each set to contain a total of exactly n stencils.

8. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step, of uniquely marking each of said stencils contained in each said set with a number from 1 to n .

9. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of verifying that a recorded number of stencils of a particular design remaining in inventory correlates to an actual number of stencils of a particular design remaining in inventory by calculating a match code and comparing said match code with the number of stencils remaining in an opened one of said prepackaged sets.

10. The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of selecting n to be in the range from 6 to 18.

11. A method for operating a tattoo studio comprising the steps of:
receiving a customer selection of a tattoo design;
determining a bin designator based on said selection;
using said bin designator to locate a storage bin containing a stencil
for said tattoo design that has been selected;
scanning a bar code associated with said stencil that has been selected;
registering a sale based on a price determined by said scanning step; and
providing said customer with a receipt that includes at least a total cost of said tattoo and tattoo care instructions.

12. The method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of scanning at least a second barcode associated with a tattoo enhancement, and registering said sale based on at least said first and second barcodes that have been scanned.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of selecting said tattoo enhancement from the group consisting of a non-standard paint, an additional paint color, and a mixture of paint colors.

14. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of displaying signage sufficient to inform customers that tattoo care instructions are provided on said receipt, whereby consumers are prompted to request said receipt if it is not offered by an attendant.

15. The method according to claim 11 further comprising the step of positioning said barcode at least one of on or within arm's reach of said bin containing said stencil.

16. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of displaying on a display unit a plurality of different tattoo designs available for customer selection and displaying said bin designator adjacent to a corresponding one of said tattoo designs.

17. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of selecting said tattoo enhancement from the group consisting of a non-standard paint, an additional paint color, and a mixture of paint colors.

18. The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:
providing said customer with a receipt that includes at least a total cost of said tattoo and tattoo care instructions.

19. The method of claim 18 further comprising the step of displaying signage

sufficient for informing customers that tattoo care instructions are provided on said receipt, whereby consumer are prompted to request a receipt if one is not offered by an attendant.

20. The method of claim 11 further comprising the step of storing said stencils in pre-packaged sets, and selecting each set to contain a total of exactly n stencils.

21. The method of claim 20 further comprising the step, of uniquely marking each of said stencils contained in each said set with a number from 1 to n .

22. The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of verifying that a recorded number of stencils of a particular type remaining in inventory correlates to an actual number of stencils of a particular type remaining in inventory by calculating a match code, and comparing the match code with the number of stencils remaining in an opened one of said prepackaged sets.

23. The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of selecting n to be in the range from 6 to 18.

24. A tattoo studio kit comprising:

- a display unit for displaying a plurality of tattoo designs;

- a bin designator schedule for cross-referencing a bin designator with a tattoo design, said bin designator identifying a bin in which a stencil for said tattoo design is stored;

- at least one bar code disposed within arm's length of said bin and corresponding to one of said tattoo designs;

- at least a second bar code associated with a tattoo enhancement;

- a scanner for reading said bar codes, said scanner operatively connected to a cash register system to register a sale based on a price determined by said bar codes.

25. A tattoo studio kit comprising:

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- a display unit for displaying a plurality of tattoo designs;
- a bin designator schedule for cross-referencing a bin designator with a tattoo design, said bin designator identifying a bin in which a stencil for said tattoo design is stored;
- at least one bar code disposed within arm's length of said bin and corresponding to one of said tattoo designs;
- a scanner for reading said bar codes, said scanner operatively connected to a cash register system to register a sale based on a price determined by said bar code.

26. The kit according to claim 25 further comprising means for providing customers with a receipt that includes at least a total cost of said tattoo and tattoo care instructions.

27. The kit according to claim 26 further comprising at least one sign for informing customers that tattoo care instructions are provided on said receipt, whereby consumers are prompted to request a receipt if one is not offered by an attendant.

28. The kit according to claim 25 further comprising pre-packaged sets of stencils, each set containing a total of exactly n stencils that are numbered from 1 to n .

29. The kit according to claim 28 further comprising means for calculating a match code, said match code corresponding to a number of stencils of a particular type that should be remaining in an opened one of said prepackaged sets.

30. A method for operating a tattoo studio comprising the steps of:

- receiving a customer selection of a tattoo design;
- determining a bin designator based on said selection;
- using said bin designator to locate a storage bin containing a stencil for said tattoo design that has been selected;
- scanning a bar code associated with said stencil that has been selected;

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registering a sale based on a price determined by said scanning step; and
verifying that a recorded number of stencils of a particular type remaining in
inventory correlates to an actual number of stencils of a particular type remaining in
inventory by calculating a match code, and comparing the match code with the number
of stencils remaining in an opened one of said prepackaged sets.